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EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Examining Group Number 3700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mark Shu et al.

Examiner: Alvin J. Stewart

Serial No.: 10/792,186

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: March 3, 2004

Docket: M190.148.101 / P0011480.00

Due Date: October 4, 2009

Title: SUTURE LOCKING ASSEMBLY AND METHOD OF USE

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

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P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed August 4, 2009.

The Claims have not been amended with this Response and remain as reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks, including arguments, begin on page 8 of this paper.